

"THE ROSARY"

PROPERTY OF WILLARD B. PRICE

## THE ROSARY.

### PROPS

Newspaper  
blue print  
Button hook  
Cane (with hook)  
Wine glass  
D canter  
Revolver  
Light  
Three cups  
Three saucers  
Sugar bowl  
Tea Pot  
Tap bell  
Bell (phone)  
Rosary  
Cigar case  
Cigars  
Photo  
Hat and coat  
Letter  
Carpet sweeper  
Piano  
Lunch tray

## "THE ROSARY"

## CHARACTERS

REVEREND FATHER BRIAN KELLY .....	CHARACTER LEAD
BRUCE WILTON .....	LEAD
KENWARD WRIGHT .....	BENTEEL HEAVY
LEE MARTIN .....	LIGHT JUVENILE COMEDY
<del>REGGIE</del>	
*	
LESURA WATKINS .....	JUVENILE COMEDY
ALICE MARSH (	
VERA WILTON )	DUAL ROLE. LEAD.

### TIME... Present

Place Westchester New York

Act One the lawn of Bierce Wiltons country home.

## Act Two The study two hours later

### Act Three The study next morning

At four Outside chapel of the reseays- rosary one hour before dawn.

## ACT ONE

(they see e is the grape arbor on the lawn of Bruce Wilton's country place just outside New York city, a portion of the house is seen L Its entrance is through a spacious veranda reached by broad steps, roof of veranda is supported by two large pillars, beginning at upper end of house, the lattice work of grape arbor extends across the back and down the proscenium arch R it is broken by arches R C and R 3E a large tree and is covered as the arches R and C with grape vines. Around the base of the tree C is a large seat, a white settee is placed up and down stage R C medium sized rattan table a white cain chair each side of table flower beds around veranda L 2 white cain chairs on veranda view through arches shows rolling hills of Westchester, it is 6 P M on a beautiful summer day as the curtain rises---the ray of sun falls upon the grape arbor from R.)

Lesura Watkins

( a pretty girl of 19 rather inclined to plumpness enters at rise) all her movements are slow and methodical, under her arms a number of cushions in her hands several newspapers and magazines, she X 's to bench R C and begins to arrange cushions on bench.

Lee Martin

'nick name Ske eter) (rolls a turkish rug on fro door of veranda which reaches to from of steps) as the carpet unrolls Skeeter enters from door of house L he is twenty five years old who small in size, sharp features and tow colored hair ) He speaks to Lessura who b this time is standing on bench & trying to reach newspaper which has previously been placed just above her reach in the lattice work.

Skeeter

Ah there angle (Lesura takes no notice of him intent on the paper Skeeter coming down steps) Angel, I said, and that goes, just in time to keep her from doing a fly away to heaven (pause she does not answer) How dare you speak to the angel, skeeters, does the angel wish to converse with you? Nay, nay and also NIT (draws nearer) Miss Angel Rover Rover Rover. (whistles L)

Lesura

What are you calling the dog for?

Skeeter

She has spoken at last.

Lesura

Then you know Mr. Wilt n hasn't any dog.

Skeet

Well, I've tried everything I know to make you talk since you came to the ranch three days ago, and I said call the dog, and she'll speak from the face out, and you did, wise boy, Skeeter eh?

Les

(looks at him calmly without smiling) Some times I think your crazy.

Skeet

Ah a you have taught of me thn?

Les

Are you crazy?

Skeet

Nop just a little bit daffy

Les

I don't know what you mean

Skeet

Why, bugs on the top floor, rooms to rent in the brain flatk ~~sacth~~ me? Myfriends always laugh at that joke.

Les

I don't see anything funny about that.

Skeet

Ah! And they call me the original comedy cut up around here.

Les

What do you cut up?

Skeet

Murder! Say are you joshing me?

Les

I used to know a man named Josh, up home in Vermont.

Skeet

You come from Vermont, I got you.

Les

Um hum Bellas Falls Vermont.

Skeet

Why so far away from home little one? Did the Bellas bust or the falls flew? Joke, catch me?

Les

Falls couldn't flew

Skeet

Oh, say what are you doing up there?

Les

I'm trying to remember why I climbed up here.

Skeet

Take your time, don't over burden your mind, don't force it.

Les

Ah!

Skeet

She's got an idea.

Les

That paper.

Skeet

That's easy (catches the paper and goes L C) Extra Extra! All about the missing heiress from Bellas Falls Vermont 'spreads arms wide over L C as tho trying to keep corwd back) Keep back keep back, there give the lady a chance.

Les

What are you doing?

Skeet

Keeping the corwd back, so you can get out of your flying machine Keep back there, take that trolley car out of the way

Les

(gets down from bench slowly) I don't see any crowd.

Skeet

ah, say are you always serious? Can't you laugh? I got a bet of five dollars with John the coachman another four dollars with Molly the cook, that I can make you laugh Bee, I've got hard work ahead of me.

Les

So have I. (begins to fix c ushions and papers) Mrs. Wilton always wants everything ready out here, when Mr Wilton comes home from the city.

Skeet

I wonder if Ben will come with him today?

Les

(pause) Ben who?

Skeet

Ben-anna (pause for her laugh she doesn't) Oh do I want that money? Ben-anna, see?

Les

I don't know Mr. Bennanna.

Skeet

Stung. (falls in chair) Say, cold you laugh if you tried?

Les

Yes, but my paw said when I took my carpet bag am left Bellas Falls he said Lesura Watkin, don't be boisterous.

Skeet

Ah! You win, but I'll make you laugh hear me, I'll make you laugh or die trying (goes up C)

Vera

(enter from house L woman 26 charmingly gowned) Well, all ready for Mr Wilton, Lesura?

Lesura

I guess so, Mrs. Wilton.

Vera

We mustn't guess lets be sure (^ to table R) His favorite magainze and newspapers cigarettes here-{-sees Skeeters who comes L C) Is the tea ready, Lea?

Skeet

Water boiling.

Vera

Good changed your dress didn't you, Lesura?

Les

and bootblacked my finger nails.

Skeet

Wudn't that Bellas Falls you?

Vera

(scolds) Lee! Manacured you mean, my two fri nds and helper Lesura and Lee--

Skeet

Gee, Mrs. Wilton it does sound funny to hear you call me Lee.

Vera

Its a better name than skeeter.

Skeet

Sure. Only keeter makes me think of the time on the East Side, when I was just a preliminary fighter.

Vera

Don't, Lee.

Skeet

Yes, and something worse. I wasn't above porch climbing or second story work, and the day I met my boss, Mr Wilton---say, he's real he is, I was ragged and hungry, and it looked lik up the river for mine. when he stepped out of his automobile, and he says, "kid" yes just just that easy "Kid, you looks as though you wanted a job----

Vera

You didn't want one didn't you?

Skeet

Listen/ WANT don't say it I YEARNED that's the word "Show me a job " I says, and I'll give it a hug and a kiss of warm welcome " Well here I am.

Vera

Don't you think that's pretty fine, Lesura?

Les

Yes'm but I don't know what he's talking about.

Skeet

Take me back to Bellas Falls Ben Wrright enters back of C arch handsome man of 36 quite repressed manner)

Vera

Getting ried of waiting for Bruce, Lenward?

Len

Not when his charming wife keeps me compnay

Vera

Too warm for compliments, Kemward (turning to servants) Come now Lee, see that Mr Wrights thing s are laid out. You trunk is unlocked, Ken?

Ken

Yes.

Vera

And both of you be ready, when we hear the train, whistle that brings Wilton.

Les

Yes'm (Vera turn to Ken who is R)

Skeet

(t Les) Just a moment dearie, I saw a pail of water arrested yesterday

Les

What for?

Skeet

For being full. (pause) FULL get it, FULL.

Les

You can't arrest a pail of water.

Skeet

Ah She's an Egyptian mummy (exit in house with Les)

Ken

Do you treat all the servants like---

Vera

Like friends? Yes, that's what I want them to be.

Ken

(on bench R) What a strange woman you are, Vera Wilton.

Vera

(sits L of table R C facing him) And what a strange man, you are Kenward Wrright.

Ken

There's nothing peculiar about me is there?

Vera

You're the oddest man I know (me makes movement). Wait. When your uncle diee, and left his etnire fortune to Bruce, you didn't seem to mind.

Ken

Bruce had already won you, monkey didn't matter.

Vera

(laughs) You WILL keep up that joke, that you cared for me.

Len

(laughs) Yes, funny isn't it? (rise and turns away to R) (face showing it is really no joke to him)

Vera

And then you are continually dropping upon us from-- heaven knows where.

Ken

Well, this time, my drop is from the west---Iowa.

Vera

Where? What town?

Ken

Milbourne. Yes, I met your sister Alice, and what a start it gave me for a moment I thought she was you.

Vera

Why we are twins. You knew that, Knaward?

Ken

Of course but meeting her so suddenly was something of a shock.

Vera

How is "lice? Do you know, I've haven't heard from her in two months?

Ken

Quite well, I judge.

Vera

I've a curious feeling of depression about her.

Ken

Nonsense.

Vera

Of course, but I can't help it, Oh Ken theres something I want you to do for me.

Ken

Give it a name, Vera.

Vera

Tomorrow is the anniversayr of my marriage, and I've a present for Bruce----one that I can't give him, without your help.

Ken

It must be an amazing gift.

Vera

It is---something for his study---and I want you to meet me there early tomorrow morning.

Ken

How early?

Vera

Six o'clock.

Ken

I'll have to stay up all night to be in ti e.

Vera

Please be serious, Bruce won't go to the office and its a task to have this gift ready, and keep him out of the way.

Ken

What a wifely devotion.

Vera

Bruce is worth it.

Ken

sure of that?

(whistle off stage)

Vera

Theres the train Lee Lursura (Skeet enter from house on run has tray with spirit lamp, tea kettle etc)

Skeet

On the job, I started when the whislte blew.

Vera

(back of table R C) Oh dear, where's Lesura?

Skeet

(fixing newspapers) Bellas Falls is asleep, I guess.

Vera

Oh (rings bell, single stroke on table)

Skeet

Time. (drops paper, comes C hands up in fighting attitude) (pivot swing right hand twoard Vera)

Vera

Lee!

Skeet

Wh splash, that bell made me think I was back in the ring again.

Vera

"heres Lesura and the tea?

Skeet

I'll go and see (starts L Lesura enter hurriedly with tray of cups and saucers, small bottle of Irish whiseky etc narrowly escapes collison with Skeeter Vera utter cry as the two meet)

Vera

Oh.

Skeet

(sieze Lesura by shoulder) Don't worry. (take tray) Going down. you know, you ought to get the hook. Here youare, Miss Vera, it just cam in on the Bellas Falls slow frieght get that?

Vera

(laughing) I do.

Skeet

(laughs)

Les

Mr. Martin.

Skeet

Yes?

Les

What kind of a hook shall I get?

Vera

What is the girl talking about?

Skeet

You can search me. (Les starts towards house)

Vera

Lesura, where are you going?

Les

Mr Martin told me, I ought to get the hook

Skeet

Ah (drops in bench R C Les exits in house L)

Vera

Do you know what she is talking about, Lee?

Skeet

Yes, but she doesn't (Bruce Wilton enters C from L fine featured age 32)

Bruce

Hello, home again. (Vera goes into his arms, Skeet quietly gets in arbor)

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

Bruce  
"lad to see you, dear.  
Vera

Ages since you went away this morning

Bruce  
I meant to catch the two o'clock train, but I missed it. A big deal  
on tell you all about it later, hello where did Lee go?

Skeet  
I'm hiding in the forest.

Bruce  
Hello kid, glad to see you (shake)

Skeet  
Right back at you, boss, only stronger.

Les  
(enter from house with button hook of extra long handle) Here's the  
hook.

Bruce  
(turns) Hello, Lesura, is that for me.

Les  
I don't know, Mr Martin told me I ought to get the hook and I got it.

Bruce  
Oh, Lord.

Les  
Aint it the right kind of a hook?

Bruce  
I don't know is it, Lee? (X to table R C)

Skeet  
(X to Lee very importantly) I will see. (try to put hook about her  
neck) No it aint large enough. I'm very sorry

Les  
You use that to button boots.

Skeet  
I know, but then you get the hook, it will be in the neck (Bruce roars)

Les  
Is that funny?

Skeet  
That's the jokeist joke I ever joked.

Les  
I'll go get the right hook (exit in house L)

Bruce  
(laughing) Skeeter, your wit doesn't seem to make an impression on  
Lesura.

Skeet  
Listen, Mr Wilton, she's the toughest proposition. But I'll make  
her laugh if it kills me (exit in house L.)

Vera  
Bruce, dear, aren't you afraid we'll sp il those two?

Bruce  
Not a bit, heavnes, but its good to laugh, there's tragedy enough  
in the city.

Vera  
A hard day in wall street?

Bruce  
Yes. Why Vera, I'm in a deal, that if anyone knew the facts---if the  
other crowd had a hint of what I proposed doing tomorrow they'd smash  
me like that

Vera  
Going to tell me?

Bruce

Hell, are you anxious to know?

Vera

I'm interested in anythin' that concerns you, dear.

Bruce

You shall hear about it tonight, do you know what day tomorrow will be?

Vera

Yes, the eleventh day of July

Bruce

And our wedding anniversary hush, close your eyes tight now (takes jewel case from pocket opens it) Now, look.

Vera

(opens eyes and looks pleased) Bruce!

Bruce

To my wife, on our second anniversary

Vera

A rosary (take from case) A rosary of pearls.

Bruce

I had them selected one by one, and the cross was made from the first ore taken from my new western mine.

Vera

How dear of you, and my present for you--well I can't give it to you now.

Bruce

No?

Vera

No, because it isn't finished, that is it is finished but it isn't in yet.

Bruce

In? In where?

Vera

In the house.

Bruce

I'll go and see it. (X to L C)

Vera

(catch him) No No

Bruce

I don't understand

Vera

I don't mean you shall. Its something very beautiful only you mustn't enter your study until tomorrow at ten o'clock.

Bruce

All right, its a promise anything new, dear?

Vera

Kenward is here.

Bruce

Fine. I hope we can keep him for a few weeks. you know, Vera, Kenward acted like a big man when Uncle Arthur died, and left me all his money (sit on bench)

Vera

Didn't he? (back of table)

Bruce

And you know, I always thought Ken was in love with you.

Vera

Nonsense, don't be jealous. You know that is your one fault, and I worry sometimes, worry for fear I may do something--something---

Bruce

Why, Vera.

Vera

Why Kenward jokes about it.

Bruce

Yes I know, but there's always seems to be a serious note back of his jokes on that subject.

Vera

That's your imagination.

Bruce

Prhaps anybody called?

Vera

Nowt that remeinds me. there's an awfully prett, girl waiting for father Kelly you remember the priest we've heard so much about here? Did you send him a note, Bruce?

Bruce

Y s, don't you know who he is?

Vera

Why no.

Bruce

Remember me telling you of the priest who tutored me for my yale entrance examination?

--Vera

Why-nee-

--Bruce-

Remember me telling you of the priest who tutored me for my yale entrance examination?

Vera

Yes

Bruce

Father Kelly is the man. I'd been so taken up with business, that I only found it out a week ago, I'm wondering if he will remember me?

Vera

I shall be glad to meet him

Bruce

Who's the girl, you said was waiting?

Vera

Kathleen O'Conor, father Kelly's niece.

Bruce

Let's go and see her, we'll have tea, when Father Kelly comes (X L.)

Br-eem

Let's-go-and see h

Bear

Yes, and keep them both to dinner. I must see to that now. (they exit)

Father Kelly

I enter from L he is fine type of man ruddy good natured face and eyes that see humor in everything looks about him) a fine climb to the top of the hill, and a fine place when you get here, only there's nobody about. Let me see that note again (t ks note from pocket and read) I wonder what I'd better do.

Bruce

(on veranda) If I were in your place, Father Kelly---

Father

What's that?

Bruce

I'd rest myself after a long walk

Father

That's good advice. (sit L of table R C) and I make it a rule in life to follow good advice

Bruce

Its a warm day

Father

No dear sir, its worse; its scalding.

Bruce

But there's a good breeze up here.

Fat or

I feel the genlte zephyrs on me cheek will ye tell me what I do now?

Bruce

what do you kno' now?

Father

Of course, you're laying out the rules for my behavior, sit down says ye and here I am planted like a marble statue on you front lawn A cool breeze, ye said, and I have me bald pate turned to it so I axe ye what next.

Bruce

Look at me. (X to talbe back of Kelly)

Father

I'm looking

Bruce

Tell me my name

Father

Wilton ah a Mr Wilton am I not prompt in me answer?

Bruce

Yes, but where have you seen me before?

Father

Well, I---I--

Bruce

quick now.

Father

Aisy me man. Don't rush an old man off his feet. I'm thinking. Was it in church.

Bruce

No, I haven't been ins de a church in twnety years.

Father

(seriously) I'm sorry for that.

Bruce

Yes, you always were.

Father

I always--man dear, your voice has a familiar ring, and ye smile like that of someone who---

Bruce

Who walked with you, and talked with you, father Kelly, many years ago, when you used to shake your fist at me and say, "Bruce dear, will ye never get the music of the Virgil in yer head?" Amma Vurmmquie Cane---

Father

Trejse qui primus oris Muder alive. Its Bruce (rises) Me dear b y, Bruce what I yanked throgh his latin by the hair of the head.

Bruce Wilton (shakes) Come here, well, well, well---

(puts his hand on his shoulder, then chanbe tone abruptly) For two pins I'd lather this head of yers---

Bruce

(break away rush behind bench A) No you don't, father Kelly. I've felt that right hand of yours before, in our bouts with the gloves.

Father

Is it a fighter you're makin' of me?

Bruce

Well, your religion was of the molly-coddle kind, thots what I liked about it

Father

But you never loved it enough to make it your own.

Bruce

I don't believe in any religion father.

Father

(seriously) I know that, Bruce, an its a great grief to me but I live in hopes lad, his ways are wonderful and he says he may yet show you his mighty hands rule the universe (pause) (A lay hand on Bruce's arm There there, (both sit) Sure, me ove for ye makes me forget I'm not in the pulpit preachin. Tell me about yerself I was sint to a aprrish when you entered college. Yo've done well?

Bruce

So well, Father Kelly, that sometimes I'm afraid.

Father

Of what, Bruce?

Bruce

I don't know. I've added to my fortune my uncle left me, until I'm worth a million

Father

I hear ye, but its hard to follow ye, I kin think very well in tens and hundres, a million takes me breath away

Bruce

And after tomorrow if all goes well, I'll have two millions. I've a house in the city, and this country place that I bought only a month ago---and a wife--

Father

Aha---I've been waiting for the rastle of a petticoat.

Bruce

The dearest woman in all the world.

Father

I'll bet ye

Bruce

Strange too she's relious Believes in everything I reject.

Fat er

Well well, there's hope for the head of the house then.

Bruce

Our meetin was the stranges thing. Out in the country, a western town, I happened to be wa king b the church there. Someone was playing THE ROSARY.

"The hours I spent with thee Dear Heart

Are as a string of pearls to me

I count them over, everyone a part,

My rosary, my rosary

Each hour a pearl, each pearl a prayer

To still a heart in absence wrung

I tell each bead, unto the end--

Father

And there a cross was hung. (during recital lights grow dim the warm tints of sunset flood the scene, in the stillness the sound of beards are heard)

Vera

(comes on veranda) Bruce dear, what keeps you?

Bruce

Here she is, Father Kelly, it was her voice, that drew me out that day (X L back of table)

Father

Sure and that's no wonder.

Vera

(going down to Father taking hi hand) Then you don't blame Bruce, Father Kelly?

Father

Faith Mom, if he hadn't been drawn well he had been more human.

Blarney Vera

Father  
Not a bit of it, cold 1928 truth

Vera  
(as they laugh move to tea table) Tea after that

Father  
Is that a hint mom that my compliment to you is hot air?

Bruce  
Not a bit of it (Bruce and father sit)

Vera  
(pouring tea) Never had such an idea like it strong, father Kelly?

Father  
Suit yerself, sure and I'll engage to drink it as ye pour it out, Mrs. Wilton

Vera  
No no

Father  
I beg your pardon, mom

Vera  
Not, Mrs Wilton

Father  
No?

Vera  
Vera, to my dear friends.

Father  
Does that mean that I am elected to that honorable number?

Vera  
Unanimously (hands him cup)

Father  
Me thiks mom, sure and its a knighthood you've conferred on me.

Vera  
Oh you irishman, Bruce has a drop of the blood in him too.

Father  
Of course. Isn't he me friend?

Vera  
(quickly) Father Kelly (hands father cup of tea)

Father  
Man, dear, are you wishful to saald me?

Bruce  
No, but I---

Father  
What happened, anyhow?

Bruce  
Well, quite by accident I put some whiskey in your tea.

Father  
(pause stirs tea) Did ye so?

Bruce  
Bruce, Vera

Bruce  
I'm very sorry.

Father  
Was it good whiskey?

Bruce  
Real Irish, fifteen years old.

Father  
Well, well leave it stay, if its that old, twould be a crime to distubb it but---(hands cup to Vera)

Vera  
You don't approve?

Father

Ah, how that depends. Whiskey is a fine servant, but a bad master---  
tis for the end of the day not the beginnin. If it cried out inside of ye  
don't touch it, but if it laughs ye may use it in reason

Vera

then---

Father

Yes, but someone who hasn't the strength to use it in moderation, mighty  
see me and I'm better to do without it.

Bruce

You've changed a bit, Father Kelly

Father

Yes, lad, some, I'm balder, and me hair is whiter.

Bruce

How comes that you are out here? Why a man like you should be at  
the head of the finest church in New York City.

Father

Sure, and I chose this place. I knew that there were men, women, and  
little children, starving for the bread of god's word.

Vera

And you preach in a tent?

Father

Tis all the same, Mom, whether the master calls indoors or out. Didn't  
the fathers who came to America when all were wilderness, do  
without churches? Ah sure and I'm no better than they?

Bruce

But in winter.

Father

Well, I will not say its thoroughly comfortable in January, one of  
me congregation a rebel and an anarchist, but a goodfellow came  
up to me one day when the snow blew in and driftedn about me feet, and say  
he father Kelly preach us of the place where the wicked will go, he says,  
and faith ye'll melt the snow about ye" (they all laugh)

Bruce

Wouldn't you like a church?

Father

Well, I'm not avaricious, Bruce, but I could use one, Bruce.

Vera

Theres a new church being built at the foot of this hill--isn't there?

Bruce

Yes, and when its finished, the key will be turned over to Father  
Kelly

Father

(sits cup of tea down) To me? Ah go on, and don't be crackin your  
jokes at an old man.

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

Its the truth. I've kept it a secret, even from you, dear.

Father

Ye mean it?

Bruce

I certainly do. Special permission has been received from the arch  
bishop of New York to build it. The mony has been laid aside,  
and it will be completed within a year. no matter what happens it will  
be called the "Chapel of the Rosary"

Father

Well, well am I walking in my sleep. I wonder, Miss Vera would you have the kindness to pinch me?

Vera

(pinch him slightly) There.

Father

I'm awake, but where did it come from?--Who---

Bruce

I gave it to you, dear old friend.

Father

You? (pause) I'm tryin' to speak, but the world won't come.

Bruce

And on the day you open its doors, there will be a new organ with the most beautiful tone---a gift from my wife, Vera.

Vera

That's the organ you asked me to select, and wouldn't tell me what it was for. Father Kelly, the day your church opens I will play that organ for your service.

Bruce

And though, I don't believe in religion at all, father, I'll come to church that day

Father

Save me but you certainly overcome me with your goodness. Its a tidal wave of love, that's sweeping over me.

Bruce

Can't you swim, father?

Father

Get out of that, you blatherere (shakes) Bruce, me dear boy its from a full heart, I say thank ye, and thank ye, Miss Vera and ---and don't those words sound simply foolish? (goes up R with Bruce)

Les

(enter from house) Mrs. Wilton

Vera

Yes. (X to veranda, Bruce and Kelly engage private conversation) What is it Lesura?

Les

Your sister has come she told me to tell you and Mr. Wilton quietly.

Vera

Alice here? (turns pause) Bruce excuse me father Kelly (father X's R)

Bruce

Yes, dear.

Vera

My sister Alice is here.

Bruce

That's strange did you know she was coming, Vera?

Vera

No I must go in to her.

Les

If you please Mrs Wilton, your sister was pretty tired, and she's lying down up stairs. Asked not to be disturbed, just dropped down on the bed and went fast to sleep, and she said, for you not to say she had come to anyone except Mr. Wilton.

Vera

Oh very well, Lesura. (Les exits) Isn't that strange?

Bruce

Well, don't worry about it.

Vera

I feel as though something were hanging over me.

Father

(enaring last words) Well, mom if it drops sure and I'll be the first one to catch it.

Vera

Thank you.

Kath

(enter from house) Uncle Brian!

Father

And is that yerself, Kathleen?

Kath

Yes, I come with a letter for you (hands letter to Kelly)

Vera

And we were too happy in meeting father Kelly that we forgot all about you t is is my husband Miss O'Connor.

Father

(as he opens letter) Faith I'm goad ye come dear (turns to others) Sure Kate is not been feeling quite herself of late.

Vera

That's too bad.

Bruce

No message in that letter that will keep you from dining with us?

Father

his? Sure its only notification that in ten months, the lot where me tmt stand s must be vacated.

Bruce

We'll have the chapel of the Rosary done by that time.

Father

Bruce, lad, ye've made me very ahppy on this beautiful evening.

Vera

Isn't it heavenly out here?

Father

Well, if heaven is more beaitufil than this, faith, I don't think I could stand it. what do you call the place?

Bruce

Eden

Vera

After the garden of Eden Bruce named it.

Father

ah but there was a serpent there tiwth a fork tongue, who did more mischier than all the world has been able to repair since.

Bruce

No serpent here, Father Kelly

father

Then its not Eden

Vera

If there is a serpent, find it. Do as your saint Patrick did, drive him out.

Father

I'll do the driving fast enough but I must find the ser pent first.

Vera

Come into dinner, Bruce hurry and dress.

Father

Truth for you mom, this serpent may be in the house. (X to house)

Ken

(enter from house evening clothes) Dinner is ready, they say Hello Bruce.

Bruce

How are you Ken? Glad to see you (exit in house with Kathleen)

Vera

Ohcome I beg your pardon father Kelly, this is our friend Mr. Kenward Wright.

Father

Mr. Wright.

Vera

Coming. (starts with Ken Ken assist Vera by hand up steps)

Father

(near foot of steps sees look Ken gives Vera speaks slowly) No---  
serpent here---Bruce said, I wonder, I ---wonder (moonlight on him  
hanging lamp o veranda shines down on Ken as Ken releases Vera's hand  
gives her exteely affectionate look. Vera does not see, but father  
Helly does) (all this bus before father reads last speech)

CURTAIN

## ACT TWO

## BRUCE WILTONS STUDY

(room is wainscoated and dark oak arch & leading out to lawn opening & another 2 leading to dining room and library thru hall all arches may be closed as they have heavy french glass windows blue velvet curtains on three arches L C is door reached by two steps a flight of stairs leading to 2nd story Behind the way C there is a platform 7 by 1 one half high, on this is set a bed room furnished with bed and dressing table and two chairs, from this room a door right leads to bath, lamps on each side of dressing table placed against the back of flat L of door C the back wall of the main scene, is scrimmed also the door L C leading to staircase. When lights are lowered in front to see in room up C and on staircase are turned on one can see into bedroom also anyone who descends stairs that portion of scene above the arch L 2nd door ent) and is scrimmed, and back of it is a painted library set, with an easy chair and table on which is a drop light, there are book cases along the wall L settee well up telephone on table C as curtain rises\*C

Fa the r

(off L after song) Thats a fine song, Bruce me boy

Bruce

I'm glad you liked it, father Kelly (all laugh off L) (door opens from stairway L C Alice is seen there and this Alice is played by same party that plays Vera) (she stands with hands on knob of door)

Les

(enter L 2 E) Why Miss Alice ---

Alice

Your the girl who met me when I came this afternoon, aren't you?

Les

Yes'm Lesura is my name Miss Vera just sent me to see how you was.

Alice

Are they at dinner?

Les

Yes'm Lesura is my name Miss Vera just sent me to see how you was.

Alice

Are they at dinner?

Les

Yes'm that priest man is an awful nice fellow I spilled some soup on him and he didn't get mad a bit, why don't you go in and eat?

Alice

(after pause) I will (X to arch L 2 E puts hand on upstage curtain to draw it aside)

Ken

(off L) I say, Father Kelly, that's a good story

Father

(off L) Wait till I tell you the one about the three crows (loud laugh)

Alice

(stops with a gasp and pulls curtains)

Les

What's the matter, Miss Alice?

Alice

Who---who is that man sitting at the further end of the table?

Les

(peeps thru curtains as Alice holds apart) Why, that's Mr. -enward Wright.

Alice

(starts back from curtain) "enward Wright, that isn't his name

Les

Wh , yes, that's what they call him he's a great friend of Miss Veras.

Alice

Mysister's friend

Les

The cook told me he wanted to marry Miss Vera but Mr Wilton stole her away from him (Alice X to stair L C) I thought you were going into dinner?

Alice

No I'm going to my room when my sister isn't busy, ask her to come to me.

Les

Yes 'm.

Alice

And don't say that I looked in there, will you?

Les

No mom.

Alice

You see---I'm not going- in because-- I don't want to disturb them Mr. Kenward Wr gght is a stranger to me remember that. I never saw him before in my life. Never never. (exits to stairway L C)

Les

She's a funny woman. First she'ds huggy, then she isn't.

Skeet

(enters R whispers) Listen Amos is coming here tonight.

Les

Amos who?

Skeet

(enjoying joke hugely) A mosquito ( pause) (stand on tip toe leaning forward expectantly for Les to laugh) A mosquito eh yes yes catch it.

Les

Mos uitos are here every night.

Skeet

-h (staggers back pulling his own coat lapel) This way out, my boy, step lively step lively (exit D L)

Bruce

(enter) Lesura, take my cigar case to "r. Wright

Les

Yes sir (takes case) If you need anything ring the bell. (exit L 2 E) backing into Ken coming thru curtains)

Ken

Hello Lesura, in another moment I'd have hugged you

Les

You would?

Ken

Yes. What would you have done if I had?

Les

I'll have to think it over. (gives him cigar case, and exit L 2 E)

Ken

(laughs) There's a strange girl, takes you literally every time. (takes out cigar and lights it) What's all of your worries Bruce

Bruce

Well, I wish I was sure of the stock market tomorrow.

Ken

Thats the price you pay for wanting more money

Bruce

May e

Ken

Ken  
Big sal on, eh?

Bruce  
Every dollar I have is at stake, then you know me pretty well

Ken  
I ought to

Bruce  
Who's this enemy of mine?

Ken  
(who has been laying chords on piano make a discord) What the devil are you talking about?

Bruce  
Fact, Ken, queer things have happened to me lately in the stock market. Three times I've just missed landing a big deal.

Ken  
Well, suppose you have. You can't win every time.

Bruce  
No. But it happens when I was sure, when I had told no one of my plans. Then, its as though some one had mental control over me and meant my ruin.

Ken  
How can you talk such nonsense?

Bruce  
I feel it that's all who the devil is in?

Ken  
Don't be a fool, Bruce. You haven't an enemy in the world.

Bruce  
I have. The feeling has been absent for the past few weeks tonight it has come back (Ken laughs) Don't laugh, I tell you (Vera enters L 2 with Kelly blue print of church between them discussing it)

Vera  
And you see, Father Kelly, the organ there, I can look down on you while I'm playing

Father  
Look down on me, is it? Well, if I can't preach with your eyes on me, then I'd better resign

Vera  
Bruce dear, Kathleen is looking over the books in the library, we thought we'd come in here, it's cozier.

Bruce  
Yes, of course.

Vera  
Troubled about anything?

Bruce  
Nothing in the world.

Ken (to father)  
(to father who has crossed R showing him church plans) A fine church, Father Kelly.

Father  
You may well say that, Miss Vera has been telling me of all the decorations and now the pulpit is to be finished in pure gold.

Vera  
(to Bruce verysoftly) I'm going up to Alice, you haven't told Ken or the others that she is here?

Bruce  
No.

Vera  
Lesura, said Alice wanted to see me (exit L 2)

Skeeter  
(enters)

Father

Well, upon me word if it isn't me old friend Skeeter

Xkddg

How are you father Kelly

Father

Come here to me lad, give me the grip of your hand (does so) Well well and what are you doing here, me boy?

Skeet

I'm Mr. Wilton's vallet de chamber, and then some.

Father

I know what that is, but it sounds very impor tnat.

Skeet

You bet it is, and I am on the legele too.

Father- Ken

One wo ld infer from that reamrk that you had at once time---

Skeet

Sure, I was a crook

Father

Now lad, now.

Skeet

I was all right, why say do you know how I first met up with Father Kelly? I broke into his house.

Ken

Youwhat?

Skeet

Broke in wit the jimmy. Wasn't I the tough kid? I was trialed by a fly cop. All at once someone turned on the lights---it was father Kelly---we heard steps on the stairs, father Kelly grabbed me, cap off me head pushed me into a chair, in comes the fly cop Father Kelly says he there a burggar in your house, Man alive sa a Father Kelly theres only me young friend and I a, dn me butler up stairs and he bluffed that cop and he saved me.

Father

The boy romances a little, I'm afraid.

Skeet

That's what you did all right---saved me from going to jail gave me a chance to go straight, and me for you every time Why father Kelly I'd go twell I'd go there for you (Kelly shakes finger Skeet hands over mouth backs up & C pause)

Father

-hank ye, lad but I'd rather see ye travellin in the other direction.

Bruce

Lee suppose you find out if George has the car fixed.

Skeet

Yes sir. (exit R U)

Father

(looks afte Skeet) Well, well what do you think of that?

Ken

Perso ally I think I'd lock up the silver ware.

Father

Then you have small confidence in humanity Mr Wright.

Ken

None at all. Have you?

Father

Well, sir I've lived for sixty years on this beautiful earth and I believe theres love in every huma heart.

Ken

But you a priest its your business to believe that.

Father

and you're a man, Mr Wright and it sure be your business to help the

priest no matter what is creed may be, to foster and bring to light even the smallest particle of good in the lowest of god's creatures.

Ken

"Want to make me a missionary eh, no no thanks (exit L 2)

Father

Bruce dear, I'm sorry but I don't like your friend.

Bruce

Don't like Ken? "by he's the best fellow in the world.

Father

Maybe so he has a mighty fine way of concealing it.

Bruce

You're angry, father.

Father

I'm not. The cloth I wear forbids me to give way to anger. I am not angry. It would do me a world of good to take Mr Wright by the arm and lead him out on the lawn and quietly beat the head off of him (catches himself) But I'm not angry

Bruce

I see you are not.

Father

But I have a strange feeling about the man that---

Bruce

Why father Kelly-----

Kathleen

(enter L 2' Uncle Brian shouldn't we be starting for home? (Vera enter)

Father

Soon me colleen

Kath

But sure and its getting late. (start L 2)

Vera

No you and Kathleen are to remain tonight with us.

Father

Won't we be botherin you too much?

Vera

Not at all.

Bruce

Do stay, Father Kelly, we must have a talk about the young people in there.

Vera

Besides its going to storm (X R)

Father

I'll accept your hospitality most thankfully. (exit with Kathleen L 2)

Bruce

How did you find your sister, dear?

Vera

Alice has changed Bruce she's worn and pale and nervous.

Bruce

Won't she comd won?

Vera

She doesn't want to meet any one (Alice walks past window C)

Bruce

(sses her) Why Alice.

Vera

Don't call her Bruce she's going out the side door to walk about the grounds.

Bruce

What ails her, Vera?

Vera

I don't know she seems unhappy dear I'

I'm worried about her.

Bruce

Now now Alice is only tired after her long journey a good nights rest is just what she needs come we'll go in the library with the rest.

Ken

(enters L) Ah, Bruce go another cigar?

Bruce

The box is there, help yourself.

Ken

I thought I had some, but yours is a trifle better than mine Here you know what I like about this cigar, is its peculiar flavor got over that foolish feeling you had about having an enemy?

Bruce

No he's there all right Ken hiding behind his brokers.

Ken

He must be a crafty man

Bruce

He is, but he's a coward, for he doesn't fight in the open

Ken

If you're sure of what you say---

Bruce

Why, Ken

Ken

You ought to be very careful

Bruce

I am. No one knows my plans in Wall street tomorrow no one but Vera--  
(exit L 2)

Ken

(looks after him, bites off cigar) No one but Vera (lights match laughs) But some one may find out, no one but Vera laugh Alice enter R 2 sees Ken X to him slowly Ken turns finds her at his elbow pause)

Alice

(slowly intensely) And you can laugh, you can laugh (laugh outside L)

Ken

(X up pull curtain a wch L 2 burst of laughter off L) (alice sinks in chair) R of table) When did you get here?

Alice

T his afternoon. I knew you were here. I saw you in there, that's why I did not go in to dinner.

Ken

What did you come for?

Alice

You ask that? Then I think o fwht a fool I've been--how I've trusted myself my whole life to you--

Ken

There's no good agonizing about it. I mean to be perfectly fair with you, Alice.

Alice

Then why did you give another name out there?

Ken

I was looking up a big railroad deal---Iowa Central didn't want any come back.

Alice

Is that the truth?

Ken

Absolutely.

Alice

Why do you hate, Bruce?

Ken

I don't.

Alice

Yes

Yes you do, I saw it in your face, when I looked thru the curtains (he starts to speak) don't deny it, I know it, why do you hate, Bruce? Why? Why? (Ken picks up phot from piano) Oh its Vera you loved her, and Bruce won her, isn't that it? Isn't it? Isn't it?

Ken

Yes, he did win her, but--(break quickly) I mean you're quite wrong Alice.

Alice

Won't you forget it all? (sits L of table) I've come to you now, in all the helplessness of a woman who has given all---everything--- because she loves. I couldn't stay out there in my home. It seemed to me that everyone was looking at me ---that all know---flesh and blood couldn't stand what I endured another day and so I said "I'll go East I'll find him" # "He will know and pity me help me (rises)

Ken

Hush, yes yes, you mustn't stay here, I'll leave immediately. When the house is quieted down, come down here I'll meet you don't leave any word, just come down here, and we'll go away together.

Alice

and then---and then?

Ken

We'll be married.

Alice

"h I'll do exactly as you say yes I'll go no w tonight you'll come for me yes yes I'll be here, ready (exit L C up stairs)

Ken

Awkward. I wonder how I can get away? I'll---I'll do it (looks about a moment burst of laughter off L 2 drop into chair back of table telephone) Hello central give me 1770 Murray Hill New York will you I'll wait. Be quick please.

Bruce

(enter L 2) Why don't you come into the library Ken with the rest? Hello, what's up anything broke?

Ken

Don't know New York just called me (in phone) Hello that you Bason? This is Wright---yes Kenward Wriggitt tell them I'll be in tonight about that matter when (covers receiver turns to Bruce) when does the next train leave Bruce?

Bruce

its 11:10. Thers a train at 11:55 another at 12:12 and other at 1250

Vera

(enter L 2) Bruce I---

Ken

Yes, I'll be in on the 11:55 from here.

Vera

Why what is it?

Bruce

Ken has to go into the city (presses button)

Vera

Oh, that's too bad (enter Kelly Eatileen Lasura Skeeter)

Ken

Sorry but I simply have to go

Bruce

Mr Wright's at and---(Skeet exit L 3) better take your macintosh Ken.

Ken

Of course. I'll change these in town (referring to evening clothes, Skeet enter L 2 with Ken hat and coat)

Bruce

Bruce

My car is being repaired, worry we'll nich up a horse for you, -en  
(Vera press button L C)

Ken

No I can make it easy I like the walk Good night father Kelly

Father

Good night, Mr Wright.

Ken

Go d night all I'll be back in a day or two ( a chorus of fare lls  
he hits R 2 thun er in dsitan e lightneing Lesura enter L 2)

Father

I hope therain holds off till her reaches the staion

Vera

Ye so do I persoanly I think its ti e to retire. (Skeeter turns out  
lights on table, up R) Lesua ra show Miss O'Connor to the blue room

Kath

If you please Mrs Wiltoh---(guese undecided)

Vera

Yes, dear what is it?

Father

Well ma' m we have a little custom e in your- our house authllen  
is use to

Vera

What is it?

Father

When the day is over, and we are going to ur rest, I always call  
the little household together for a good night blessing.

Vera

Won't you do that now, Father Kelly?

Father

If the mastero fo the house doesn't object.

Bruce

Not at a l, but I don't believe---

Father

Bruce Lad, don't sayit. Who knows what the night holds for any of us?  
(in prayer) My god's belssing rest on this household and all of  
u tonight forgive if anyone have strayed grant the night may bring new  
strenh to love and serve thee always amen."

Vera

Thank you father Kelly

Bruce

Upon my word, Father Kelly, I wish I did belive---

Vera

Bruce--

Father

Ah, Vera, child, he's made a beginning. The desire must come first.  
The means are in his hands (looks about\*smiles) And now will anyone  
tell an old man where he is to lay his head?

Vera

Lee will show you, Father Kelly. Good night everyone 'she exits  
upstairs)

Kath

Good night Uncle Brian.

Father

Good night, mauvaurneen (Kath exit L 2 with Lesura) Bruce, I'm going  
to browse in your library for an hour.

Bruce

help yourself (Kelly exit L 2) Lee Lee see that Father Kelly has every  
thing that he requires.

Skeeter

Yes, Mr Wilton.

Bruce

Good night Lee (exit upstairs L C)

Skeet

Good night sir.

Les

(enter down stairs L C) Good night Mr Martin.

Skeet

Just a moment little one now heres an easy one. Why oh why does a chicken run across the street?

Les

I don't know. Why does a chicken run across the street?

Skeet

Because it can't go around around see?

Les

What was the chiekn doing in the street? (Skeet reels back gropes for light switch) I never saw any chicken's in the street up in Bellas Falls Vermont, where I came from (S eet throws switch light's down also out) We d n't keep our chickens ont in the street.

Skeet

GOOD NIGHT! (EXIT L 3)

Lesura

Mr(follow him to L 3) Mr Martin w ose chickens were they Was there a rooster there? (lights up back of scrim Alice seen scrim I down the interior of the library is seen fat er Kelly seated at table C book in hand lights slowly fade lights go up back of scrim in hall L C Alice seen half down stairway L C X up to window unblot it opens a viidd lightning thunder in distances Ken taps on window R E Alice X to w nlow R opens it)

Ken

Youmade it all right?

Alice

Yes, but Vera's awake. She's worried about me (wind) What was that?

Ken

Only the wind

Alice

Bruce was talking to Vera, about his business affairs---you are the one who's opposing him---you are his enemy

Ken

How do you know that?

Alice

I heard Bruce say he was going to sell Iowa Central stocks tomorrow. Sell it till he could buy in the road, and that-sh-t-the road you---

Ken

Buy---that's the information I wanted Come--

Alice

No no, not until you promise to use that against him Bruce said he would be ruined, if it were known promise not to use it or I'll scream I'll call everyone.

Ken

Be quiet. (draws curtain as he does so the double backs on takes Alice place Alice goes up make change to reappear as Vera) She's fainted Of course I won't use it now, but it wo ld be easy to buyIowa Dental as Bruce all s it he can't deliver it, he hasn't got it and when heas hsold demand the stock. It would ruin him. Of course I won't do it. No no no. Come come. You're all right. Are you ready? Well, I'll wait a moment. Pulls yourself together. (lights go up back of scrim room C Vera opens door and looks out starts for door in hall

lights go up in library L then down. Clock strikes twelve  
Alice in Mens arms at R 2 gives low moan ) Be quiet, are you  
able to go now? (lights go up in hall, wya L C show Vera half down  
stairs)

Vera

There's some one in this room who is it? Speak (bumps into key board  
of piano leaning on piano strikes dishord Alice with  
cry runs out C window Vera follows her) Alice Alice, she's gone.  
She wouldn't speak to me.

Father

(enter arch L 2 at dischord on piano) Vera, child, what are ye doing  
here?

Vera

I can't tell you, Father Kelly

Bruce

(on stairway L C) Vera---

Vera

(to father) There's Bruce and I ean't tell him

Bruce

Vera

Vera

Help me Father Kelly help me (Kelly puts Vera behind curtains at window  
R 2 as Bruce enters L O down stairs)

Bruce

What's that? Who's there. I'll know I (switch on lights) Father Kelly  
You? Alone?

Father

Yes, Bruce as you see----ALONE!

CURTAIN.

## ACT THREE

(the scene same as Act two only furniture is arranged a little differently chairs R C Arm chair L c settee with broad band of ribbon stretched over it room in disorder storm is not over rain is scheduled-- and wind is still blowing---light through window R 2 is dull)

Skeet

(with carpet sweeper running it over floor)

Father

(enter R two hands clasped behind him in unpleasant train of thought.

Skeet

Good morning father Kelly

Father

(rousing) Eh? What's that?

Skeet

I just said good morning that's all

Father

Yes of course good morning me lad, busy with your duties I see.

Skeet

Sure, I'm busy, but it isn't my duty to do this. No its Lesura's the champion all wool warranted not to laugh girl of Bellows Falls Vt. get that father Kelly?

Father

Yes Skeeter yes (looks about sighs drops into chair L of table R C)

Skeet

(X near to him) Listen Father Kelly what's up?

Father

What are you talking about me lad?

Skeet

You and the rest of the house.

Father

Where's Mr Wilton?

Skeet

Gone for a walk, isn't that a hit? Such a day as this? Yes a d and such a face on him no breakfast just a big drink of whiskey and out.

Father

Oh, and Miss Vera?

Skeet

Up in her room crying.

Father

(rise) Well I---(sits) No I must think this out (breaks off seeing Skeet watching him) Don't stand staring at me like that, but tell me how you know she was crying?

Skeet

Gee, father Kelly what are you jumping hurdles about?

Father

I beg ye pardon lad, I have no right to speak to you like that. -I-thou Forgive me, lad lad and tell me how you know she was crying.

Skeet

I went to knock at her door when she didn't come down I thought maybe she was sick or something I heard her sobbing.

Father

Foor girl and Bruce gone out walking.

Skeet

And with an awful face on him he was in the library when I came down stairs with a decanter of brandy

Father

What evil influence is in this house?

Skeet

Is there one?

Father

Yew lad there is 'rise X up C! I felt it last night. I almost had my grip on it, and then it was gone, and Bruce poor boy alone in that room all night with black doubt gnawing at his heart.

Skeet

Everyboyd was happy enough yesterday

Father

I know lad I said to myself last night as I sat here in the library, if there was a household of peace, good will and happiness 'tis here, and then me eyes fell upon this ancient book I held, and I read these words "The evil thoughts of one mind, one human brain, can kill the happiness of an entire household for thoughts are things" (pause)

Skeet

Gee, Father Kelly you make me feel as though here was someone behind me with a rick (Kelly lean on table R C Skeet L C facing him)

Lesura

(enter thru arch L 2) SAY!

Skeet

(violent start) Listne, don't ever do that again to me.

Lesura

Don't do waht Mr Martin?

Skeet

Sneak up behind me and murmer in my ear, gee I thought I was sent for.

Lesura

Do you think Miss Vera knows her sister is gone?

Skeet

Has she? (Lesuar nods yes)

Fa ther

Miss Ver 's asister was she here then?

Lesura

Yes, Mr Reverend.

Father

Where did she go, my girl?

Lesura

I don't know sir.

Father

More mysteries (look at both othey stare at him) For the love of heave don't ye stand there staring can't ye smile, Can't ye laugh?

Skeet

(gloomily at Lesura) She can't.

Lesura

I can, when there is antything to laugh at.

Father

Well, Skeeter's the boy hat can make ye laugh Come no w lad, tell u saajoke that'll put us all in a good humor.

Skeet

I can't.

Father

And why not?

Skeet

Because I've lost a friend.

Fahter

That's sad news, lad.

Skeet

Yes, por Sam poor old Sam , you ere my pal, and now you're canned.

Father

Sam who?

Skeet

Sam--on (Salmon)

Fatherr

Father  
'roars) Thats fine Skeeter, sur I brought it on myself. They canned  
my friend Sam Sam who? syas I Sam on says you drops into chair  
L of table) (roar) Sure, and I thank ye lad there's no medicine like  
a good laugh (Lesura stands L C absolutely blank Skeet turns sees her)

Skeet

(to Kelly) But the res one patient it don't work on.

Father

What's that? Why don't ye laugh me girl?

Les

(mournfully) I don't see anything to laugh at I think its sad.

Skeet

Wouldn't that make a man bite his mother-in-law?

Father

Yes, but look ye here---

Les

If my friend Sam was put in a can I couldn't laugh its awful cruel  
to put anyone in a tin can I think its murder (exit L 2)

Father

Hold on ye don't understand (as she exits turns to Skeet) What on  
earth is the matter with the girl?

Skeet

Her face is frozen, and you can't break the ice.

Father

Never mind lad.

Les

(enter L 2 holds out cane to Skeet)

Skeet

What's the idea, of the dressup stick.

Les

You said I ought to get the hook.

Skeet

So I did. (looks at stick critically)

Les

Thats the only hook I haven'g got for you (he laughs) "hat are  
you laughing at?

Skeet

Only only a joke about Sa

(Vera enters)

Les

It isn't funny

Skeet

Tr it on some one and see

Les

(look at him turn with absolute sober face) My friend Sam was put in  
a can. (no reply)

Father

What in the world? (Skeet gestures him to be silent)

Les

They put Sam in a can.

Vera

Sam who?

Les

Codfish.

Skeet

Oh the hook- (hangs crook cane around her neck and drags her off L 2)

Father

Well upon me word so that's the hook eh?

Vera

Good morning, Father Kelly.

Father

Good morning asushilla machree

Vera

Isn't that sound charming? Those old Irish words on your lips  
father?

Father

I mean them

Vera

After my not coming down until this hour. Leaving you all alone?  
You are very forgiving, Father Kelly

Father

Don't---don't treat me as one of your society friends.

Vera

What are you talking about, Father Kelly?

Father

This. You'll need a friend before this day is over.

Vera

Please.

Father

No I must speak. I am a guest under your roof --but I am your friend  
and your husbands (pause) Treat me as such.

Vera

How do you mean?

Father

Tell me about it, about last night---(Vera drops head) tell me all.

Vera

I can't---I can't. (X R)

Father

Can't you see that you must? (pause) Do you love your husband--  
you home?

Vera

Yes, yes.

Father

Great danger threatens them---threatens you---your very life happiness

Vera

Don't please pâas don't I've---I've been ake all night---I  
couldn't sleep som thng seems to b hanging over me, over Bruce  
(desparately) Father Kelly help help me or I shall go mad (X to him)

Father

(takes her hands) Mavournned I'd lay me life for ye, but ye must  
tell me all.

Vera

You w n't repeat?

Father

Vera child, remember my office. All my life, grief striekn sin laden  
human beings have been coming to me, for the peace that comes  
from confession and forgiveness there (points up) Tell me---

Vera

Father Kelly I know more than you do about last night.

Father

(after pause) May I ask you some questions?

Vera

Yes.

Father

Why did you come down to this room after we had said good night?

Vera

I was worried about my sister, Alice.

Father

Was she alone, in this room when you came.

Vera

Vera

I don't know---it was dark---I co ldn't see did you see anyone?

Father

Only a dim shadow

Vera

You saw my sister here?

Father

No

Vera

Father Kelly do you believe I came down here to meet someone?

Father

I'm afraid that is what Bruce is thin ing, Vera.

Vera

Do you believe---do you? do you? (X to him)

Father

I wish I was as sure of heaven as I am of your truth and purity  
but d n't ye see, I'm not the only one, that has to be convinced?  
Can ye convince Bruce? That is the question.

Vera

I can't tel him about Alice

Father

Ye must Vera, ye mustn't keep anything back from your husband (Ken  
enters R 2 & neither Vera nor Kelly percieve him) Where is your sister,  
Alice

Vera

I don't know.

Father

She wnet away last night?

Vera

Yes.

Father

Then---(puts hands over eyes Ken disapperas R 2)

Vera

Father Kelly---

Father

There it is again

Vera

What?

Father

I don't know Vera a strange sensa ion of evil it is as though the  
embodiment of Satan stood behind me tis only my fancy probably.  
Ye see where we stand? Ye husband tramping the countryside, fighting  
hisjealous doubts of ye, and the only person on earth who can  
prove ye didn't bame down here last night to meet an unknown man  
is ye sister.

Vera

I know I knoe (X up C b curtains) Oh Bruce, Bruce our wedd ng anniversa r;  
and how I have planned for this day (turn eagerly) and mygift  
for him is here behind these curtains.

Father

we must find your sister.

Vera

How how how?

Father

I don't know, but ther must be some way.

Vera

But w y did she go away like this find the reason.

Father

Find the man (slowly)

Vera

Father Kelly.

Father

This is no time to mince matters.

Vera

Father Kelly can you look into another's mind?

Father

To save you and Bruce, whom I love as though you were my own, I'd ask God to give me that power. Tell me is there any other reason your sisters actions? She left her room down stairs--- a man was here who was he?

Vera

I don't know.

Father

(take her two hands) Think acushula think itws your lifes happiness at stake and Bruce---think---(telephone rings look at each other rings again) Answer it ----Vera--

Vera

Hello----yes this is Mr Wilton's country place---yes this is Mrs Wilton---what? ---speak louder please---(stagger back with cry)

Father

(quickly to her) Steady---steady get a grip on yeself girl

Vera

Father Kelly

Father

Sure, and I'm here, close beside ye feel the grip of me hand? Stead

Vera

Its from Belleville hospital in New York city Alice was knocked down by an automobile early this morning in the city, and was badly hurt.

Father

You must go to her, I'll take ye (in phone) This is Brian Kelly-  
Ah ye know me, and who are ye? --what is that ye O'Hara (to Vera)  
one of me old boys from Five Point Mission go get your things on.

Vera

(desparingly from tie table to table) Theres no train for an hour.

Father

(in phone) Wait a bit, Banhy (to Vera) Go make ye ready anyhow  
(Vera exits) So then Danny how badly is the lady hurt? Seriously?  
Thats bad---I'm glad ye didn't tell Mrs Wilton listen to me she phone Mrs Wilton---I mean could she answer if Mrs Wilton called her?  
What? Ye say theres a phone in her room? Is she concious? Good  
I'm bringing Mrs Wilton by the first train Oh Danny are ye a good boy  
now Ah stick to it, lad, I never forget yes, in my prayers lad.  
(hang receiver up) That's a good boy (X L C) I must tell Katy I'm going to town.

Bruce

(enter L 2) Good morning father Kelly

Father

Good morning Bruce, ye're not goin to town?

Bruce

No M: Everettts my manager will attend to business for me.

Father

But you told me you had business of importance.

Bruce

Yes, but Everettts will attend to it.

Father

(X to Bruce hand on shoulder) Bruce me lad.

Bruce

(rise hastily deperately trying to cover weakness X L back of table)  
I hope you'll pardon my dashing off the way I did this morning,

Father Kelly.

But I've a great big deal on and I wanted to think I---

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Father

nd this is ho ye treat me after all these years.

Bruce

I'm greeting you like a friend

Father

sking your pardon, but ye're not. You come into this room---  
I see y sunk deep into the depths of black despair, do ye think I don't  
know how ey fell H Man alive, I've suffered with ye all night.  
But when I come to ye and put my hand out, ye try to throw me off, its  
the coward' w y, Bruce and ye are no coward.

Bruce

But there are somethings you don't understand.

Father

No about ye, my lad, and I tell ye now ye must speak out nege r fly  
fromtrouble---meet it and hand it a crack in its ugly face---

Bruce

You are making me remember what I've walked miles to forget 'sit L)

Father

and ye didn't succeed---ye brought it back with ye---rid ng on ye  
shoulders and sinking its spurs deep into ye.

Bruce

Don't d n't father Kelly---you're torturing me (up L C)

Father

The surgeon tortures ye, but he cures ye.

Bruce

Bu you can't cure me.

Father

Good- God can

Bruce

No no he can't. Because I'm ah unbleiver, an atheist (Father hands  
over eyes lips moving) I know I'm hurting you, Father Kelly, but if  
you want me to talk you must stand what I say (break abruptly) What  
are you doing, father?

Father

Praying for ye lad, pryaing to the power that rules the universe  
All thats in it---praying for your soul---evil shan't have ye lad,  
it may draw ye close to the mouth of the rt, but old father Kelly  
will never let ye go. He'll follow ye, and bring ye back to Love and  
God.

Bruce

(X table R C 0 You say that after last night?

Father

and-w-y-met? I'll sayit with me last breath

Bruce

and why not? You're a priest shut in f om the wor dld you don't know  
wha it is to-love with all your heart, and soul and then--then--  
(drop in chair I of table head in hands)

Father

(table R) Ye think I don't know, Bruce, it hasn't been forty years  
since a boy and girl stood by the side of a rippling stream in the old  
country. She the fairest of God creatures, gentleness and purity shone  
from her eyes--and the lad, a mere stirpling stood looking at her, and  
said "Mavourneen I love ye, but there's something within me taht callse  
me to work for mankind---to live life to our church--and I must do  
it. There theyclasped hands and parted, never to meet again, until  
the sea shall give its dead, and parting shall behe no more. The  
boyBruce was myeself---the girl was your mother. Thats why I love  
ye lad, for the sake of your moth r who is praying for her boy now to the  
God that ye deny.

Bruce

My mother! How dimly I remember her, a kind gentle sweet faced woman with a beauty almost ethereal. My father a stern faced man how he used to take me to the room where my mother lie he would lift me up and place me in her arm, and how tight she would hold me. Then one day there was a hush, in that great house, folks walked on tip toes, and spoke in low tones Up in the nursery I could hear sweet music, gentle voices singing I can even remember the refrain "Lead Kindly Light" out our earthly path ways" Then, I would drop my marvelous train of cars, cling to my nurse, and beg to be taken to my mother. She would always hush me, with a low sweet voice, and tell me my mother had gone on a long long journey and if I was a good---very good boy I would see her again. There were always tears in her eyes, when she would tell me this. And I would try and comfort her. Then, came the long years of my youth, to manhood and the understanding of my great loss. Now, Father Kelly I know why the priest worked so hard with me.

Father

Brace up my boy and we will fight it out together.

Bruce

(offers hand) Father Kelly---when I think of last night, I'm in hell

Father

Many a man has been there, and came out safe.

Bruce

I can't think---I can't reason it out I--(X to C to spirit cabinet)

Father

What are ye going to do?

Bruce

I want a drink.

Father

Ye can't have it--adrink is it? "ith ye two hands trembling---and yere eggs blazin? Not one drop. "

Bruce

In GOD'S NAME.

FATHER

In HIS name not one drop

Bruce

All right, father Kelly---I'll do as you say.

Vera

(enter L C ) I'm ready, Father Kelly sees Bruce at door C) Bruce! (Bruce does not turn or notice she turns to father)

Father

Spake to him your sister is concious may e ye can talk to her over the phone. (exit L 3)

Vera

(X to Bruce) Bruce! Bruce! (hand on his arm)

Bruce

Don't touch me.

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

Is that all you have to say to me?

Vera

What do you want me to say?

Bruce

You might explain.

Vera

Explain!

Bruce

Explain why you left your bed last night--why you came down to this room.

Vera

Vera  
I was worried, I couldn't sleep.

Bruce  
Who was the man you met here?

Vera  
I met no one.

Bruce  
There was a man here in this room Who was he?

Vera  
I don't know.

Bruce  
You don't know? He waited out there under the shrubbery---smoked a cigar, while he waited then he came into this room and met you

Vera  
No, no Bruce.

Bruce  
Then why did he come? He wasn't a thief---there's nothing missing---you came here---

Vera  
Did you see me?

Bruce  
No, father Kelly shielded you, but why did you come? Tell me WHY?

Vera  
I will tell you (X L) it was Alice she came here to meet that man.

Bruce  
What man?

Vera  
I don't know.

Bruce  
Call your sister (X L C)

Vera  
Alice isn't here

Bruce  
Gone? When?

Vera  
Last night after she saw that man

Bruce  
Have you heard from her?

Vera  
Yes, she was knocked down senseless by an automobile in the city and taken to the Belleville hospital

Bruce  
When did you know this?

Vera  
A few minutes ago I was going to the city to see her, with father Kelly Bruce took me in your arms.

Bruce  
I can't I can't I can't.

Vera  
You doubt me? You do? You do? Loudly?

Bruce  
How can any man help it? I awaken in the night-- and find you gone, I go to your sisters room it is empty and in disorder---, came down here and see a man leave this room (pause then burst) WHO WAS HE.

Vera  
I don't know---I don't know GOD I don't know.

Bruce  
You must, you must know.

Vera  
But I don't. (he turns and she clutchs arms about his neck)

Bruce, please pelase listen to me--- I love you there never ahas anyone else in my life there never will be and I am suffering because it kills me to see you suffer (he wrestles from her) Bruce! Bruce!  
(sinks in chair Loof table)

Bruce

You love me, but you don't speak you love me and you won't explain?

Vera

I can St. I don't know. Wait---wait Alice does (snatch phone) Give me Bellville Hoositar---Mr O'Hara? you know the number, thank you---hurry please (to Bruce) I'll prove it to you, dear Alice will tell you only be pateint wait.

Bruce

Why should a man come here unless to see you, Alice is a stranger.

Vera

Wait please (phone rings) Is that you, Mr O'Hara? This is Mrs

"ilton- -may I speak to my sister Alice? Miss Marsh" I can please please be quick (to Bruce) Bruce, Alice will tell you she's very weak but only a few words will do it, (phone) Alice dear, is this you? I'M so sorrydarling yes ts is vera I'm goingng to you ,dear. But Alice won't you speak the truth to Bruce. Just one word Alice, for God's sake tell him that that man came here last night to see you. He's right here Bruce---Bruce---Bruce bequick. (hands receiver) Alice will speak to you, she'll tell you

Bruce

(phone) This is Bruce Alice so sorry you're hurt. Will you tell me about last night? I mean before you left here. Yes yes, I know--- you came down stairs--- who was the man in this room? Was it you who came to meet? Well I'm waiting. (pause)

Vera

Doesn't she answer?

Bruce

No, there's a confused murmur of voices at the other end of the wire.

Vera

(phone) Please let me---Central won't you ring Belleville Hospital again? Wait? (pause) (Vera's expression changes eyes dilate hangs receiver---lean on table R hand L hand clutched at breast)

Bruce

Well, well why didn't she speak to me?

Vera

(softly) Alice---is dead--- my ister---my own ssiter---dead there among strangers.

Bruce

(pitingly) Vera!

Vera

Oh, Bruce, d n't doubt me now dear, let me cry my anguish out in your amms. I want my husbands love.

Bruce

Vera (phone rings) Wait dear (bus) Yes its Wilton-- s that you Everettts Well keep your never-old man I can't understand you. What? You sold Iowa Central in 20.000 lots? (pause) Wait (to Vera)

Vera

What is it Bruce, tell me tell me---

Bruce

You won't tell me why ou came dow here last night to meet that unknown man. I'll tell you why Tha man is my secret enemy who has been fighting me in Wall Street for m nths past.

Vera

No no no!

Bruce

You were the only one who knew I mean to own the Iowa Central Railroad

by selling its stock---then buying it in

Vera

Yes you told me so last night

Bruce

You were the only one who knew well you came down here last night to meet an enemy and tell him

Vera

No no upon my soul Bruce as I hope for mercy.

Bruce

My enemy has bought the stock I sold---thousands of shares and I have none to deliver.

Vera

Bruce Bruce

Bruce

You've ruined me.

Vera

Don't say it.

Bruce

Its true.

Vera

Its a lie----"Oh my God do something do something.

Bruce

Theres no help---I'm smashed YOU PLANNED IT.

Vera

How dare you!

Bruce

Because I know now that all your words of love---all your caresses are his. "another man owns you go to him---bit my God not with that rosary about your neck, it is the symbol of Purity give it to me Give it to me (seizes rosary from neck) Ruin has come---I'll end it all . Your God has deserted me. (revolver from pocket)

Vera

No no not that. Help! father Kelly (tear curtains from showing life size picture of Christ illuminated from behind father enters L 2)

Father

No, God speaks to you now through his ONLY SON and the cross upon the rosary.

Bruce

(drop revolver clutch table L C)

Vera

(falls on knees holding father Kellys left hand)

Father

(bending over her (Music "The Rosary" swells to FF)

CURTAIN

SCENE\* EXTER OR OF THE NEW CHURCH A handsome building of marble but on a hill sacristy L 3 at rise all lights out in house gradually the moon steals upon the stage and lights the outside of church)

Vera

(after pause) (enter R 2 shabbily dressed see chapel up C X to it)  
(with hands outstretched falls on knees before door & prays silent)

Skeet

(enter L 3 Vera quickly draw veil Skeet sees her) I beg your pardon ma'am (starts X R & over Vera looks over & shoulder, shakes head) Vera rises backs away L 2) Were you trying to doge me Mrs Wilton?

Vera

You are mistaken.

Skeet

"o I'm not---I may be thick about some things, but no one as good to me as you were can fool me (step twoard her) Please Miss Vera won't you say hello Lee?"

Vera

(offers hand) Lee.

Skeet

Gee, but that's good and to see you again won't you lift your veil just a moment please.

Vera

'd es so) You find me changed don't you Lee?

Skeet

Its the kindes, sweetest face on earth to me, just to have you here talking to me why didn't you send for me do you think wouldn't have done? I wo ld if there had been a regiment of policeman with clubs and revolvers standing between I'd have co e and gone the limit for you.

Vera

I couldn't send for you Lee, or anyone I felt I was an outcast I was accused.

Skeet

Don't say it, I won't let even you say one word against yourself.

Vera

Thank you Lee and so the chapel of the rosary was finished for dear Father Kelly Just as Bruce and I planned. Isn't it strange that I should stand here today poor shabby without a home at the door of this sacred place?

Skeet

Ye won't stand here long (starts R)

Vera

'stop him) Wait Lee where are you going?

Skeet

To Father Kelly---do you think he won't be glad. Well, watch him when he sees you

Vera

No Lee, no do you think I could bear it? Why look at me no let me find some quiet corner, where I can listen to the music when Mass is read--where I can hear dear old father Kelly's voice. Then I'll steal awa as I came unnoticed unknown.

Skeet

I suppose I must do it if you say so I always minded what you said.

Vera

You were a dear faithful friend always (takes his hand) I'll go there---to the little gallery up there (X L 2) And when the bells

ring out I'll be gone

ring out thefr message of eace and the velings fall---' shal hear and see everything (exit C) (S eet look afte her Lesura efters R 2 dressed very fashi nable afternoo gown large picture hat long handle paraosal st op right center with lorgnette turn slowly surveying church S eet X R stop as he sees Lesura does not recognize )

Skeet

So here comes the whole fifth avenue (Lesura moves up C as he starts R 2)

Lesura

My good little man--

Skeet

Say that sounds familiar (turns ) Yes ma...am.

Lesura

Would you be good enough to show me over this edifice?

Skeet

Bellas Falls Bt and she's got 'm all on

Les

Is that you, Mr "martin?

Skeet

It is Say ther aint any clothes left in bellows falls, are they?

Les

You observe a change in me

Skeet

"hang e? Say oyu re the fourth of July parade---a presidential torch light prosession (she approaches very society way)

Les

Well, Father---

Skeet

Oh yes father, not p w, but father.

Les

Made a lot of money

Skeet

Did any one see him making it?

Les

Why ho

Skeet

It was lucky for father.

Les

Why lucky?

Skeet

I had a friend who made a lot of money yes stak s -- bales of it-- he workd hard---sat up nights making his money---but theysaw him (Les does not smile Skeet turns to imaginary dog) Lie still Rover-- lie still nothing doing.

Les

So father sent me to school and I'm finished.

Skeet

You look it but have you changed? Are you still there with that joke dyeing stuff that skeet iron map warranted not to c ack if jo hit i with a hammer. Are you Greenland's icy mountains are you---

Les

You seem to donverse in hyperpoles.

Skeet

Help! Stop Rover---you must 't bi e the lady even if she does call you names.

Les

And you still have your dog I see

Skeet

You see? Then if you're sure you see a dog there, the next thing you want to see is a doctor.

Les  
Now don't be naught---  
Skeet  
Never why paw says---  
Les  
Paw who?

Skeet  
Parsnpipe (pauses sober look from Les) Say you may be finished but  
you have not changed a bit.

-es  
(half to self) Parsnips parsnip

Skeet  
Be patient lady---it won't pain you I'll give you gas for the next  
one. You see (pause she smiles) hey're off bellows falls in the lead.

Les  
Why---why--

Skeet  
At the half---Bellows Falls first (she laughs) Bellows falls wins  
hurrah that's right laugh laugh go on laugh laugh you Egyptian mummy  
laugh on (poses and leans on umbrella) Am I a ~~ugly~~- joke?

Les  
Lee, that's very very funny

Skeet  
They taught you to laugh when they finished you (she laughs) I was going to  
you and say now strang am I with you I can you give me your mitt  
and say take the stuff and mean it? Could you? Oh could you hold  
your breath, Rover hold your breath

Les  
Am I to infer that you are reproposing marriage to me?

Skeet  
Red hot zizzling right off the bat.

Les  
Lee, I could never marry a man who dressed like that never--you lack  
finish.

Skeet  
That's easy. You haven't seen my finish (removed covering from hat pulls  
down coat tail discarded tie remove false cover on vest also  
ragged umbrella case and now stands before Les clothed in fine  
Prince Albert---fancy vest high hat slim umbrella etc) Always there with  
that quick stuff me I am going---going, any more bids? Anybody  
want me? Going---going---

Les  
I want you--(akes his arm)

Skeet  
Gone I've won her at last, come on Rover (they exit R 2)

Bruce  
(enter R 2 ragged face pale and drawn suffering from his first  
thrown of delirium tremors) They can't find me here, I've dodged  
them all the awful shapes that have tried to seize me. You can't come  
here this is the church and I'm safe yes yes safe (sink on bench R C)

Father  
(enter stops shivers lays hands over eyes X slowly to Bruce) Bruce  
me dear boy! Bruce! Father I thank thee thou hast brought him back  
sin sick and weary broken and torn though the very flames of the pit her  
at the foot of thy Holy alter (pause) Bruce! (Bruce rises and  
staggers away) Bruce dear---(Pause rise and speak sharply) Bruce  
Wilton.

Bruce  
Yes.

Father

Rouse yerself speak to me how came ye her?

Bruce

I don't know they're after me

Father

They who?

Bruce

- hapes of poisonhouse thi gs ghta tried to sieze me they laughed and  
mocked me you won't let them to ch me you won't you won't  
(kneeling clinching fathers hand)

Father

Listn to me lad no harm shall come to you ye know me ye know  
father Kelly don't ye?

Bruce

Yes, you came to my house that night you asked a blessing on it.

Father

I did.

Bruce

And this is the answer to you praryer isn't it stranger father that  
I am in rags and tatters a bleeding broken par dy of a man should  
come her today why why (X L C)

Father

Yes, tha is the chapel of the rosary that ye built fer me Bruce and  
tod y it will be opened at high mass.

Bruce

We didn't thikk that night that it woud end like this.

Father

This is ot the end lad, tis only th beginning of the lesson you must  
learn there is nne who rules us all (pause)Where is Vera?

Bruce

don't---don't speak her name she brought me all this.

Father

Stop! Not one word aganst her, theres no voice in all the world  
good enough to speak her name. I believe in her as I believe in  
my religion---as I h pe for hereafter---where pian and suffering shall  
be no more

Bruce

If I could only believe--- (sinks bench R)

Father

Ye shall, the black cloud thots over ye shall pass. And thee sunshine  
in belief of Gods love shall yet flood your soul Bruce Lad waht evil  
ghing came over ye, that day?

Bruce

I don't know

Father

And yet it was there --I sensed it in the garden before we went in  
to dine. I felt it next day---I feel it-- (Ken enters L 2)

Ken

Good day, Father Kelly

Father

Now good day to you Mr Kenward Wright.

Ken

I've come for you, Bruce.

Father

Wait! You've come for my dear boy Bruce Mr Wright?

Ken

Yes, we ' ve had him in the sanitarium near here for mnths (low tone  
to Father) Bruce isn't quite right you understand.

Father

No, but I'm trying to fathom it, you'll stay to service lad (

Ken

I would by all means you are dressed for it, aren't you?

Father

In the house of God Mr Wright its not what ye wear upon ye back but  
what ye naked soul is in His sight, that counts (pause) Stay-Bruce

Bruce

no no I've tried to believe all my life I've tried and your God  
answrs me by br ng me down to this to the humiliation of poverty and  
rags.

Father

"aybe tis time that ye rise a new and better man pray with me lad now  
befor e yonder alter.

Bruce

No these are oaths in my heart---blasphemy on my lips.

Father

Don't lad don't -

Bruce

I gave a rosary to the woman I loved a rosary of pearls each pearl  
a prayer a prayer from my soul that some power would change my heart,  
and bring me to the faith believbie- belief.

Father

And that prayer will be answered.

Bruce

"hen ? When? ?Mast I sink lower sound the depths of more misery and  
despair?

Father

The time may come now kneel kneel (Bruce dazed by Kelly answer---  
drops on knees)

Ken

Better let me take himaway

Father

Why are you scanxious to do that, Mr Wright.

Ken

I don't want him to disturb you

Father

Disturg is it? My poor lad Bruce once so full of life and gaiety  
now fallen to this, is as though some evil power held him---  
a cruel human power and I know it is. Since the day man first thought  
of evil, it has had its power, and evil thought holds my poor boy now but  
God in his mercy can change that.

Ken

You believe in miracles then?

Father

Who doubts them? Don't they happen about us every day? Ask the young  
mother whose soul goes down to the very gates of death that her smiling  
babe may lie within her arms. Isn't that a miracle? God working through  
nature for all mankind.

Ken

Then work a miracle now, for him Prove to him that is wife is true  
prove that she came down from her room that night not to meet a man  
but to meet her sister or for her sister.

Father

That's what I'm praying for now.

Ken

Prove to him that the rosary he gave to Vera is stainless speak  
the name of the man who came to the house that night. (chapel bell  
ounds)

Bruce

(stagger to feet) Good bye Father Kelly its the end of all to me.

Father

Wait father above---look down from above your promise ask and ye  
 shall recieve (chapel bell strikes another deep tone ) Vera withing  
 begins to play and sing the Rosary)

Bruce

The Rosary.

Ken

Come Bruce come

Father

No! Stay where ye are. The man who came to your house that night---  
 the man who has brought all this misery and ruin upon ye, is YOU  
 Kenwardright.

Ken

How d you know that?

Father

It comes from above.

Ken

(with cry, fall upon face to fathers feet) (Vera appears door C)

Father

Speak! I command ye---speak

Ken

It is true.

Father

Speak! His eyes are upon ye.

Ken

Alice came to meet me that night, I was your enemy, Bruce--

Vera

Father. (Omnes)

Bruce

Kenward (omnes)

Father

Speak! (omnes)

Ken

I hated you because Vera loved you I mean to take all from you, bring  
 you to dust seer your soul with the flames of jealousy. I did it  
 did it I---I---(breaks down sobbing)

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

My wife forgive me

Vera

I love you dear.

Father

The sacred doors of his house are open .

Bruce

I believe. Help thou, my unbelief.

Ken

Father, don't leave me, I'm suffering. Evil has me I'm on fire,  
 pity me, pity me.

Father

I do pity you, my son. The church seek justice not revenge. At  
 sunrise every soul is born again, and so I say to you, as my master  
 said of old" GO AND SIN NO MORE."

DURRRAIN

END OF PLAY